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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/051,065	01/16/2002	Pete Rowley	AOL0023	3384
22862	7590	06/23/2006	EXAMINER	
GLENN PATENT GROUP 3475 EDISON WAY, SUITE L MENLO PARK, CA 94025			ORTIZ, BELIX M	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2164	

DATE MAILED: 06/23/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/051,065

Applicant(s)

ROWLEY, PETE

Examiner

Belix M. Ortiz

Art Unit

2164

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 June 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 10-14, 16-26 and 29-38 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 11, 13, 14, 25, 26 and 29-38 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 10, 12, 16-24 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. Claims 11, 13-14, 26, 29-30, 35, and 37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 11 have an orthographic error, it said “to by” but is suppose to said, “to be”.

Claims 11 and 26 the phrase “do not need to be physically in any particular place” render the claims indefinite because it is unclear what the phrase means.

Claims 13 and 29 the phrase “no special knowledge of said view” renders the claims indefinite because it is unclear what the phrase means.

Claims 14 and 30 the phrase “ordinary entry” render the claims indefinite because it is unclear what the phrase means.

Claims 35 and 37 the phrase “most appropriate” renders the claims indefinite because it is relative and vague.

Regards, claims 36 and 38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112 second paragraph, as being dependent from rejected dependent claims 35 and 37.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 25-26 and 29-34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) (Eff. Filing date of application 1/16/2002) as being unpatentable over Van Huben et al. (U.S. patent 6,484,177) (Eff. Filing date of application 1/13/2000) in view of Harvey (U.S. publication 2002/0169767) (Eff. Filing date of application 10/26/1999).

As to claim 25, Van Huben et al. teaches a directory server for managing heterogeneous directory information (see column 2, lines 6-11; column 5, lines 33-35; and column 14, lines 13-21), comprising:

a plurality of directory entries (see column 2, lines 1-2; column 2, lines 12-15; and column 2, lines 29-36);

a flat directory information tree (see column 2, lines 23-26; column 7, lines 49-52; column 13, lines 63-65; and column 20, lines 31-35); and

a set of directory views to facilitate hierarchical navigation of the directory entries (see abstract; column 1, lines 8-17; and column 14, lines 7-16).

Van Huben et al. does not teach means to search said directory views by rewriting filters.

Harvey teaches a table arrangement for a directory service system and for related method facilitating queries for the directory (see abstract) in which he teaches means to search said directory views by rewriting filters (see paragraph 98).

It would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Van Huben et al. by the teaching of Harvey, because means to search said directory views by rewriting filters, would enable the directory server to perform the correct search to realize the view, because “Still furthermore, for a search, filter and subtree searches can be provided by a single pass resolution and using the path column. One invention is to utilise a ‘path’ field to simultaneously apply an arbitrary filter over an arbitrary subtree. The complications of aliases is handled by applying the above method to a uniquely resolved subtree”, (see Harvey, paragraph 98).

“Yet another unique method is to store the “path” of each entry as a string. Each path will then be prefixed by the path of its parent entry. This is useful for the filter in the search service”, (see Harvey, paragraph 99).

As to claim 26, Van Huben et al. teaches wherein the directory entries do not need to be physically in any particular place (see Van Huben et al., column 7, lines 12-14; column 7, lines 40-59; and column 11, lines 37-38).

As to claim 29, Van Huben et al. teaches wherein the existence of the directory views is transparent to a client of the directory server and the client is not required to have special knowledge of the directory views to use them (see Van Huben et al., column 11, lines 47-52 and column 12, lines 16-18).

As to claim 30, Van Huben et al. teaches wherein each of the directory views begins with an ordinary entry (see Van Huben et al., column 2, lines 12-17 and column 12, lines 56-59).

As to claim 31, Van Huben et al. teaches wherein each of the directory views belongs to a specific object class that contains a filter attribute, the filter attribute containing a filter that describes the directory views (see Van Huben et al., column 11, lines 23-30 and column 16, lines 20-29).

As to claim 32, Van Huben et al. teaches wherein the filter attribute is omitted from the views to facilitate a hierarchical directory structure (see Van Huben et al., column 16, lines 30-31).

As to claim 33, Van Huben et al. teaches wherein each of the directory views comprises sub-views that provide a subset of the directory views (see Van Huben et al., column 2, lines 26-36).

As to claim 34, Van Huben et al. teaches wherein the sub-views comprise different subject domains from the directory views (see Van Huben et al., column 9, lines 41-49).

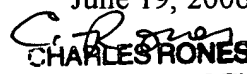
*Allowable Subject Matter*

5. Claims 10-14, 16-24 and 35-38 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

*Conclusion*

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Belix M. Ortiz whose telephone number is 571-272-4081. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 9am-5pm. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

bmo

June 19, 2006  
  
CHARLES RONES  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER